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Martley Rural Sanitary District.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR 1902.

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1902.

ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Rural District Council of Martley.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Report for the year 1902.

The Birth rate for the year, 26·2 per thousand, just exceeds the average (26·1) for the past seven years, it is considerably below the corresponding rate for England and Wales. The net number of deaths of residents in the District was 187, giving an annual rate of 14·4 per thousand, this corresponds with the average annual death rate for the past seven years.

Of the deaths 38 were infants under one year of age, and 9 of children under five, and 140 of persons above that age.

It will be seen from Table III. that there have been 88 cases of notifiable diseases this year compared with 42 last year.

Measles was epidemic in the parishes of Hallow, Little Witley, Great Witley, Pensax, and Shelsley Beauchamp, and in each of these parishes the schools were closed for a time on account of this disease. One death was registered.

Scarlet Fever was very prevalent, 73 cases were notified—this is the largest number notified since the year 1894. The disease generally was of a mild type, but it caused two deaths. Several cases which had not been seen by any medical man, and so had remained unnotified, were discovered by your Inspector and myself. It is these mild undetected cases which invariably cause difficulty in stamping out the disease.

Diphtheria.—Six cases were notified, they occurred in the parishes of Hallow, Astley, and Suckley. Two cases were removed to the Worcester Isolation Hospital, and one was sent to the Worcester Infirmary for the purpose of having the operation of tracheotomy performed. There was no death.

Small Pox.—There has been one case of Small Pox. The case occurred in the Tramp Ward of the Workhouse, and the patient was removed to the Worcester Small Pox Hospital.

The Vaccination Act of 1898 works successfully here, the conscientious objector being almost unknown, and the percentage of unvaccinated children over six months of age is a small one.

In consequence of the epidemic of small pox in London this year, special efforts were made in your district to encourage vaccination and re-vaccination.

The Public Vaccinators, by direction of the Board of Guardians, attended at stated times at the Elementary Schools for the purpose of re-vaccination and 802 persons were re-vaccinated by them. Among the better educated classes re-vaccination was universal, and there can be no doubt that your district is now more protected in this way against small pox than it has been for many years.

Whooping Cough was prevalent in several parishes and caused two deaths.

Typhoid Fever.—One case, a fatal one, was reported. It occurred in a cottage at Shelsley. An obstructed drain was found near to the well, and there seemed to be no doubt that this was the cause of the disease, but the water on analysis proved to be unpolluted. It is probable that pollution did exist, but was intermittent in character occurring only after heavy rain.

Tuberculosis.—Last year 12 deaths were attributed to Phthisis as compared with 6 in 1901. This gives a death rate of .9 per 1,000. The average death rate for the Rural Districts of the County for the years 1893 to 1901 was .8 per thousand.

The Worcestershire Consumption Sanatorium, on Ankerdine Hill, which was opened in November, has now, I understand, all its free beds occupied. One of the patients comes from this district, there is every prospect that he will be completely and permanently cured, and I hope eventually it may be possible to send to this Institution a very large proportion of the incipient cases occurring among the poor of this district. I may point out that of the deaths from Phthisis registered this year 3 occurred in the Workhouse.

Isolation Hospital Accommodation.—

Malvern and Kidderminster Isolation Hospitals have continued to take cases of Scarlet Fever from certain parishes as heretofore, but your arrangement with the Worcester Isolation Hospital for the reception of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases which has hitherto worked so well, has this year failed, as owing to the prevalence of Scarlet Fever in Worcester, cases from this district have since October been refused, and some cases, which without doubt became infected in the City have been left insufficiently isolated in their cottages in this district. In practice your arrangement with Worcester works out in this way : when there is not much infectious disease in Worcester you have the privilege of sending any cases which occur in the parishes of your district adjoining the City, to the City Isolation Hospital at the extravagant charge of £3 3s. per

week, plus the expenses of removal, but when an epidemic occurs in Worcester, and these parishes are in constant danger of infection all Isolation accommodation is refused.

I am convinced that you will be better and more economically served by a centrally situated Isolation Hospital of your own.

Your provision for the isolation of Small-pox is ample. It consists of—

- 1st.—Power under an order of the County Council to send cases to the present Small-pox Hospital at Malvern, or any other Small-pox Hospital provided by the Malvern Urban District Council.
- 2nd.—An Agreement under which cases from twelve parishes can be sent to the Worcester Small-pox Hospital.
- 3rd.—A well isolated cottage, with room for erecting tents, if necessary, at Abberley.
- 4th.—A similar cottage at Suckley.

My instructions from you are to send all cases to the Malvern Isolation Hospital situated at Half-Key, and in the event of the removal of this Hospital, to such other Small-pox Hospital as shall be provided by the Malvern Council.

Disinfection.—Houses invaded by infectious diseases have been disinfected as usual by your Inspector, but you have no apparatus for the disinfection of bedding and clothing. This would be part of the equipment of an Isolation Hospital, if you thought proper to erect one.

Inspection.—The time of your Inspector, Mr. Mathews, has been so much occupied in dealing with the exceptional amount of notifiable disease this year, that he has been unable to give as much time as usual to the systematic inspection of your district. I hope that more work will be done in this direction in future, and I would point out as parts of your district which especially require frequent inspection.

1st.—St. John County where you have Byelaws which are not very vigilantly enforced.

2nd—Arcley Common which is becoming Urban in Character and where the privy cesspits, and dumb wells require frequent attention, if the adoption of a system of drainage is to be postponed.

3rd—Hallow, where also the privies and cesspools are frequently giving rise to nuisances owing to neglect.

House Accommodation is fairly good, but few of the old cottages have sufficient provision for large families. No house has been closed this year as unfit for habitation.

Sewage and Drainage.—No alteration has been made since my report last year.

The Water Supply of the district continues to receive attention ; one well was closed as polluted, eleven wells were cleansed and repaired, and forty-six samples of water were taken for analysis. The placing of the pump and other work which has been done by your order, has greatly improved the water supply from the spring on Ankerdine Hill, and there is now an abundant supply of good water.

Dairies and Cowsheds.—There are 34 Dairies on the register, they have been regularly inspected, and three cases of contravention dealt with.

Factory and Workshops Act.—Your Inspectors have compiled a register of the Workshops of the district ; they are 94 in number. The majority of them are blacksmiths', wheelwrights' and carpenters' shops, but there are 24 bakehouses. These have been regularly inspected, and the result of the inspection reported to you twice yearly—they are all in good order. There are no underground bakehouses in the district.

There are 24 homeworkers on your Inspector's list, none of them are employed by factories or workshops in your district. Nearly all of them live

at Hallow and work for clothiers in Worcester. One case of Scarlet Fever occurred in a homeworker's house, the employer was notified and work was suspended until the case had been removed and the house and clothing disinfected.

A systematic inspection has this year been made of the accommodation provided for hop-pickers, and the Inspectors report that your Byelaws relating to cleanliness, air space, water supply, etc., are generally duly observed.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. GREENSILL,

Medical Officer of Health.

Table I.

Martley Rural District.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1902 and Previous Years.

YEAR.	Population Estimated to Middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.		DEATHS AT ALL AGES. TOTAL.		DEATHS, in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Non- Residents Registered in District	Deaths of Residents registered beyond District	DEATHS AT ALL AGES, NETT.	
		Number	* Rate.	Number	Rate per 1000 Births Regis- tered	Number.	* Rate.				Number	* Rate
1892	12044	320	26.65	41	128.1	222	18.43	15	...	...	222	18.43
1893	12044	311	25.82	36	115.7	139	11.54	8	...	...	139	11.54
1894	12044	336	27.98	31	92.2	203	16.85	18	...	...	203	16.85
*1895	13133	342	26.04	41	110.8	191	14.54	14	...	...	191	14.54
1896	13133	346	26.3	32	92.4	175	13.3	16	...	...	175	13.3
1897	13133	358	27.3	44	122.9	188	14.31	15	...	...	188	14.31
1898	13133	345	26.3	31	89.8	188	14.31	20	...	...	188	14.31
1899	13133	365	27.8	39	106.8	191	14.54	13	...	...	191	14.54
1900	13133	306	23.3	37	120.9	200	15.2	15	7	14	207	15.7
1901	12941	341	26.3	29	85.04	175	13.5	20	4	13	184	14.21
Averages for years 1895—1901	13105	343	26.1	36	105.3	187	14.3	16	...	...	189	14.4
1902	12941	340	26.2	37	108.8	175	13.5	21	1	13	187	14.4

* Sapey Pitchard and St. John County added to District.

Area of District in acres
(exclusive of area
covered by water). } 57,667

Total population at all ages.....12,941 } At
Number of inhabited houses 2,864 } Census
Average number of persons per house 4 } of 1901

Table III. *Martley Rural District.*
Table of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1902.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN THE WHOLE DISTRICT.						TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.			No. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.		
	At all Ages.	At Ages 1--Years.					Martley Registration Sub-District.	Leigh Registration Sub-District.	S. John County Registration Sub-District.	Martley Registration Sub-District.	Leigh Registration Sub-District.	S. John County Registration Sub-District.
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards					
Small-pox	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	..	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...
Diphtheria	6	...	1	3	...	2	...	4	...	1	...	...
Membranous Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	5	...	...	3	...	2	...	1	1	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	73	...	7	55	8	3	...	39	13	2	23	7
Typhus Fever... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever... ..	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	2	...	...	...	..	2	...	...	...	...	..	...
Plague... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	88	1	8	61	8	10	...	30	14	4	23	7

Isolation Hospitals :—WORCESTER, MALVERN, & KIDDERMINSTER.

Table IV. *Martley Rural District.*
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the year, 1902

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS IN WHOLE DISTRICT AT SUBJOINED AGES.							DEATHS IN LOCALITIES (AT ALL AGES)			DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTI- TUTIONS.
	All Ages	Under 1.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 und under 25	25 and under 65	65 and up wards	Martley Regis- tration Sub- District	Leigh Regis- tration Sub- District	Parish St John County	
Small-pox	..	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	..
Measles	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Whooping Cough	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Diphtheria & Membran- ous Croup .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	.	...	...
Croup	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus .. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	..	...	1
	Other Continued	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza ..	3	...	1	..	...	1	1	2	1	...	...
Cholera .. ..	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...
Diarrhœa	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Enteritis	3	1	...	...	..	2	...	2	1	...	...
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	..	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1
Other septic diseases	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	1	...	1
Phthisis	12	...	...	...	3	9	...	5	6	1	3
Other Tubercular diseases	5	2	1	1	...	1	...	2	3	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	11	...	...	...	...	6	5	4	5	2	...
Bronchitis	17	4	...	..	...	1	12	8	7	2	2
Pneumonia	12	2	1	...	...	8	1	4	7	1	1
Pleurisy	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver }	1	...	...	..	..	1	...	..	1	...	...
Venereal diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Premature Birth	7	7	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	...	...
Diseases and accidents of parturition	1	...	...	.	...	1	..	1	..	...	...
Heart diseases	30	..	..	2	1	9	18	18	10	2	7
Accidents	7	...	...	...	1	4	2	4	3	..	1
Snicides	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	1	...	..
Apoplexy	6	...	...	...	...	1	5	2	4	...	1
Convulsions	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...
Senile Decay	12	...	...	...	...	...	12	5	6	1	...
Developmental Diseases	8	7	1	...	...	...	...	2	6	...	...
All other causes	32	7	1	1	..	13	10	21	7	4	3
All causes	187	38	9	5	5	62	68	97	77	13	21

Table A. *Martley Rural District.*

Table A. *Martley Rural District.*

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health for 1902

Area in acres, 57,667.

Population, 1891—12,044

1901-12,941

Increase 1891—1901, 897

Estimated Population 1902, 12,941

Name of Medical Officer of Health—

J. H. GREENSILL.

Mortality per 1,000 of Population living during same period,

Birth Rate, 26·2.

Death Rate 14.4.

Zymotic Death Rate, '6.

Inf. Mortal, 108·8.

Phthisis Death Rate, '9

Resp. Death Rate, 2.08.

Smallpox Death Rate, 0.0.

Measles Death Rate '07.

Scarlatina Death Rate .15.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup Death Rate, o.o.

Whooping Cough Death Rate, '15.

Fever Death Rate, .07.

Diarrhœa Death Rate '15.

Enteritis Death Rate, '15

Cancer, Malignant Disease Death Rate '7

	Small Pox.	Measles	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria	Membraneous Croup.	Fever.	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever
Cases	1	...	73	6	...	1	5	2
Deaths ... ..	...	...	2	...	...	1	1	1
Hospital Cases ...	1	...	32	1	...	...	...	...
„ Deaths ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	..

Diseases prevalent—Scarlet Fever, Measles, and Whooping Cough.

Schools Closed—Crown East, Stanford, Pensax, Witley, Shelsley, Hallow, Cotheridge, and Broadheath.